



Attorney's Docket No.: 07703-414001 / WIN0208X1/J.25278USA

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gregory John Billington et al.

Patent No. : 6,390,269

Issue Date : May 21, 2002

Serial No. : 10/849,510

Filed : May 19, 2004

Title : MONEY HANDLING MECHANISM WITH PERIPHERAL PORT

Art Unit :

Examiner :

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Copies of the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are enclosed.

This statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

The U.S. and foreign patent documents listed on the attached form 1449 were previously considered by the PTO during prosecution of the original patent application (serial no. 09/546,126). Items AQ through AT are also submitted for the Examiner's consideration.

Another party, National Rejectors, Inc. GmbH ("NRI"), has alleged certain information as set forth on pages 3 and 4 of this Statement. The assignee of this application does not vouch for the accuracy of the alleged information and makes no admissions regarding that information or its relevance to the pending claims. Nevertheless, the assignee submits the alleged information to fulfill its duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Information alleged by NRI

Since the beginning of 1990, NRI had been manufacturing and delivering G-26.4000 3-tube changers. Beside the vending machine interface the G-26.4000 series always had a second interface for one or several further payment systems. Thus it is possible to connect to the G-26.4000 an additional bill validator and/or a card system (GLOBO Card). These additional peripheral units communicate with the changer via an additional port or connecting cable respectively by using the BDV protocol or later also the MDB protocol.

The diagrams for connection of these additional payment systems are described within the technical documentation *G-55.0562 NRI Converter for Bill Validator* and *G-55.7507 GLOBO Card System*.

In figure 1.1 on page 3 of the GLOBO Card system the G-26.4000 has 2 ports available. The connection "vending machine" is the 4- or 10-price interface, which is a parallel one. The BDV connecting cable No. 26 53 692-000, which can be connected by an 7-pole Molex to the BT8 plug of the G-26.4000, represents the second port. It communicates via the BDV protocol. The model No. G-55.7508 means that it is a BDV card reader. For further understanding, see wiring diagram G-26.4301/4-1k. The connection of the BDV connecting cable leads to the BT8 plug on the CPU-board. The connection to the vending machine is done by a 4-price cable with 15-pole plug 75 660 and is connected to bt1 of the connecting-board.

In the manual for G-26.4000, on pages 50 and 51 is described how the communication is activated within the G-26.4000. Function 19 activates the communication with the GLOBO card system and function 20 with the bill validator. On page 67 it is mentioned that the communication is done according to the BDV001 protocol.

Returning to the description of the GLOBO Card system G-55.7505, page 4, figure 1.2, shows that in another version of the G-26.4000 the connection to the vending machine is Simplex V (Executive). For Simplex V/ Executive two connecting plugs to the vending machine are available (9-pole and 15-pole Molex). There is a further BDV connecting cable (see figure 1.1).

The standard protocols determine the conversion of data from port 1 (Executive) to port 2 (BDV 001) by the internal controller of the G-26.4000. Executive treats value units referring to the smallest coin and BDV01 treats BCD-codes.

The GLOBO Card and bill validator peripherals are BDV slaves, which always announce to the internal controller with an ID-code. Corresponding to the ID of the peripheral the controller always sends a modified code via port 1 to the vending machine. This is determined by the standardized protocols (Executive, BDV).

Since 1989 NRI had produced, with the same generation of changers G-26.4000, serial link versions which had multi-interfaces. The pcb had various interface adapters to adapt an Exe port 1 or a BDV port

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1 to the internal controller. Depending on the response from the external controller (VMC) the G-26.4000 micro-controller selected the appropriate protocol (protocol B/BDV or protocol A/Exe). In other words, depending on the interface cable connected to the VMC the internal controller detected this connection and selected a communication protocol according to the VMC. Referring to the wiring diagram Simplex V (Executive) G-26.4401/4-1k and Professional (BDV) G-26.4801/2-1k, from the pcb assembly plan one can see the various interface adapters. X2 and X3 mean the connectors bt2 and bt3 of the wiring diagram. An interface cable BDV is connected to bt2 and an interface cable Simplex V (Executive) is connected to bt2 and bt3.

An arrangement where the internal controller is arranged to copy the contents of signals between a first port and a second port, is state-of-the-art. Manufacturers of cashless payment systems (CPS) have had to solve the problems that a CPS with Executive interface should work together with a coin mech with an Executive VMC. An adapter was offered by them or an adaptation was implemented in their CPS to work as an Exe-master with the VMC and as an EXE-slave to the coin mech. In this situation only the VMC knows and has the protocol for a coin mech, because nearly all vending machines do not support the Exe-protocol for CPS. That means that the CPS copied VMC information on port 1 (relating to the coin mech) to port 2 which is connected with a coin mech.

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 07703-414001	Application No. 10/849,510
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Gregory John Billington et al.	
		Filing Date May 19, 2004	Group Art Unit

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	5,822,216	10/13/1998	Satchell, Jr. et al.			
	AB	4,877,950	10/31/1989	Halpern			
	AC	4,359,631	11/16/1982	Lockwood et al.			
	AD	3,826,344	07/30/1974	Wahlberg			
	AE	3,653,480	04/04/1972	Yamamoto et al.			
	AF	4,669,596	06/1987	Capers et al.			
	AG	5,450,938	09/1995	Rademacher			
	AH	5,641,050	06/1997	Smith et al.			
	AI	6,250,452	06/2001	Partyka et al.			
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	2 186 412 A	12.08.1987	United Kingdom				
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AQ	"GLOBO CARD SYSTEM G-55.7507 to G.55-7509 in combination with changer G-26.4000 or with GLOBO Card Converter G-55.7600" National Rejectors, Inc. GmbH (15 pages)
	AR	"General Description G-55.0562 NRI Converter for Bill Validators," National Rejectors, Inc. GmbH (16 pages)
	AS	"Manual for Changer Series G-26.4000," National Rejectors, Inc. GmbH (70 pages) and Appendix (15 pages)
	AT	NRI circuit diagrams (6 pages)

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.